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Information Disclosure Stmt. -- Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

BRIAN M. OTT et al

Serial No. 10/772,486

Filed February 5, 2004

Atty's File 5-897

For: LINKAGE OPERATED

LATCHING SYSTEM

David A. Burge Co., L.P.A. 2901 South Park Boulevard Cleveland, OH 44120-1842 USPTO CUSTOMER NUMBER 707

Commissioner for Patents Post Office Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in compliance with guidelines set forth in 37 CFR 1.98(a) for satisfying the duty of Applicants and counsel to disclose to the Office information known thereto that is material to the examination of the application.

Inasmuch as this paper is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, as is called for in 37 CFR 1.97(b), it is respectfully requested that due consideration be given to the art that is cited herein, and that such art be made "of record" during the prosecution of this application.

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In filing this document, it is understood that information is deemed to be "material," as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a), where there is a "substantial likelihood that a reasonable Examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent."

The references listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 forms were considered during the preparation of the application identified above. It is respectfully requested that they be considered and made of record during the prosecution of the application.

While it is believed that the claimed subject matter of the above-identified application distinguishes patentably over all of the above-listed references and information, the Examiner's careful review is respectfully requested.

In the event that the Applicants learn of other material information during the pendency of the present application, such information will be brought promptly to the attention of the Examiner.

Brian M. Ott

3/8/04

Date

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Date

Date

3/8/2004

Date

Date

Thomas Heinrich

Thomas Heinrich

Timothy P. Laabs

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ATTY. DOCKET NO. FORM PTO-1449 5-897 LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary) FILING DATE U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS FILING DATE
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